

Appendix A. Recruitment Script

When called by a potential volunteer, please make introductions and answer any questions that the volunteer may have concerning the study. If the potential volunteer is still interested, please read the following statement:

Thank you for calling about information on volunteering to participate in a study titled "A Phase 1/2, Randomized, Observer-blind Study of Varying Injection Schedules of a Tetravalent Dengue Virus Purified Inactivated Vaccine (TDENV-PIV) with AS03_B Adjuvant, and Placebo in Healthy Adults in the US". We appreciate your interest. I will provide you some information that will help you determine if you can participate in the study.

Background:

This study involves an experimental dengue vaccine. Dengue is a common infection affecting travelers to many areas of the world, including Southeast Asia, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. It is caused by a virus and is transmitted by a mosquito. Dengue can cause fever, tiredness and even severe bleeding or death. It can pose a threat to military operations, and because of this, the military is trying to develop a vaccine to protect against dengue.

This study will take place at a clinic-type facility. You are being asked to enter into this research study because you are between 20 and 49 years old and are healthy. This study will have 140 volunteers randomly divided into 3 groups, which will receive the vaccine on one of three different schedules. The purpose of this study is to collect information about the safety of this vaccine. The study will also examine the three vaccination strategies and their ability trigger an immune responses against dengue. Clinical trials with investigational vaccines (not FDA approved) are necessary to advance the best candidates with hope that a safe and effective vaccine against the dengue viruses will eventually become available.

Duration:

This study will last about 18 months, including the time involved for screening. One or two clinic visits are required to see if you qualify for the study. If you are accepted into the study, you will receive 4 injections. After each injection, there will be follow-up visits. There will be a total of 17 scheduled clinic visits (not including the initial screening).

Experimental Vaccine Description:

Each study group will receive four injections some will contain the experimental dengue vaccine and some will contain a placebo. A placebo is a salt water solution mixture that does not contain any experimental vaccine but it will be injected just like the vaccine but contains no germs, drugs, or other active ingredients.

The purpose of using a placebo is to assist us in comparing any effects of the experimental vaccine. We will not know which of the injections are vaccines and which are placebo until month 7 of the study. Using placebos helps scientists understand the data they collect during studies such as this one.

The experimental vaccine and placebo will be given in your shoulder using a needle and blood samples will be collected to look at your body's response.

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Requirements and Restrictions:

You must meet certain requirements to participate in this study, which I am going to list for you. You don't have to respond, but you may ask questions if you want me to clarify any of the following requirements or restrictions:

1. Volunteers must be at least 20 and not older than 49 years of age at time of consent.
1. Volunteers must be in good health and have no significant current or past diseases as established by a medical history and physical examination.
2. Volunteers must not have received a previous experimental dengue vaccination prior to enrollment or plan to receive another flavivirus vaccine for the entire study duration.
3. Active duty military members need a signed approval memo from their supervisor to participate.
4. Volunteers must have access to the study site, be willing to attend all of the required visits over approximately 18 months (including screening), and be willing to refrain from participation in any other clinical studies involving investigational drugs or vaccines while participating in this study.
5. Volunteers must agree to not become pregnant or breast-feed during the study and at least 3 months after the last dose and also be willing to use a reliable form of contraception during the study.
6. Volunteers must be negative for hepatitis B and hepatitis C viruses, as well as HIV, as confirmed by laboratory testing.

There may be other reasons why you cannot participate in this study and those will be discussed at the screening visit.

Possible Risks:

There are risks associated with receiving this vaccine which will be reviewed in detail before you agree to participate.

You will be randomized to one of 3 groups if enrolled in this study.

Based on experience with similar vaccines, mild reactions are expected. These generally include tenderness, redness and swelling at the injection site. These reactions will most likely go away on their own within a few days. You may also experience other reactions, such as headache, a low fever, or flu-like symptoms. There may be some risks that are unknown.

After each vaccination you will see a physician in the clinic who will evaluate the number and type of reactions.

You will receive compensation for participating in this study. Federal employees and active duty military personnel are entitled to full compensation if the individual provides documentation of approved leave or the visit occurs outside of normal duty hours. Otherwise, these individuals will be compensated at the lesser "on-duty" rate. Volunteers will not be compensated for unscheduled visits.

Can I schedule an appointment for you to be seen by the research staff so that you can make a decision about volunteering for the study?

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